

Jack Deck
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Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

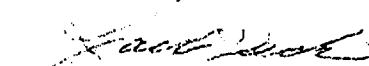
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

A reasonable and equitable settlement has been reached in the Microsoft antitrust case with the Justice Department. I am pleased that this settlement has come this far and I am writing your office to encourage you to see that it is instituted.

Microsoft has many rivals and unfortunately some are pressuring for this settlement to be withdrawn and Microsoft forced back to court. They care little for the settlement and more for seeing that Microsoft is damaged. This is unfortunate because the settlement will create more openness and competition in the technology field. This settlement will end any contractual restrictions that may have been harmful to Microsoft's competitors. This settlement also will allow competitors extraordinary access to Microsoft's internal interfaces and server interoperability mechanisms. No software company has ever opened up their books more than Microsoft in this settlement.

Despite all the concessions by Microsoft competitors will continue to press for a continuation of this case. Only resolute backing of this settlement by your people can ensure this settlement is realized.

Sincerely,



Jack Deck